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NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY

Office of the State Climatologist

Offices: 226 and 322

Mackay Science (702) 784-1723 (702) 784-6995 FEBRUARY 1994 VOLUME 13, NUMBER 2 John W. James
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STATE

<u>SYNOPSIS</u>

February 1994 has been the wettest month thus far this winter over most of Nevada. Much of the state had above normal amounts, the exceptions being the South and the West where totals were generally only 75 - 85% of normal.

Water Year 1994 totals (Oct. 1, 1993 through Mar. 1, 1994) have improved since last month, but are still well below normal over most of the State. ranging generally from 1/3 to 2/3 of normal. Eastern Nevada is in the best shape with over 3/4 of normal.

Temperatures were cooler than normal during February, but no long-term records were approached. State records of -42 at Carlin Newmont in 1989 and 93 degrees at Laughlin in 1986 were not threatened.

TEMPERATURE

Departures from normal ranged from 6 degrees below normal in the Northeast to only 1 1/2 to 2 degrees below normal in much of the rest of the State. For extremes, the mercury fell to -25 at Charleston on the 1st, and -17 at Ely on the same day. Vya had -17 and Ruth had -16 on the 12th. At the other end of the State, the thermometer read -10 early on the 12th at 8000' Lee Canyon. On the warm side, several locations in the South reached into the low and mid 70's at months end. Amargosa Valley at 77 and Overton an 76 topped the list.

PRECIPITATION

The wettest reporting location was 7500 foot Upper Incline with 6.89" of precipitation and 88" of snow. Nearby 7500' Verdi Peak (just over the Nevada border into California) had 8.73" and 103" of snow with 2.25" and 25" of snow on the 10th and 2.16" and 27" of snow on the 17th. Other wet spots were Kyle Canyon, also at 7500', with 4.80" and 47" of snow, Incline with 3.93" and 56" of snow, Lee Canyon 3.82" and 31" of snow, Woodfords 3.60" and 31" of snow, and Glenbrook with 3.25" of precipitation.

The driest locations were Amargosa Valley with .10". Montello .11", Lahontan .13". Hawthorne .16" and Tonopah Airport

with .18" of precipitation.

SUNSHINE, WIND, AND EVAPORATION

Sunshine hours were near normal in the South and West (e.g. Las Vegas at 81% & Reno at 66%) but above normal in the Northeast (e.g. Ely at 85%.) Average wind speeds were above normal in the West. and near normal in the remainder of the State. Peak wind gusts reached between 60 and 70 mph at mid-month along the lower East slopes of the Sierra Nevada. and to near 60 mph at Smokey Valley.

Evaporation was below normal with 3.50" at Overton and 3.75" at Boulder City.

John W. James State Climatologist This month we continue our salute to Nevada's volunteer weather observers with Humboldt and Lander Counties:

HUMBOLDT

Chimney Creek - Santa Fe Pacific Gold Corporation
Denio - Henry John
Desert Valley Sleeper Mine & Pond - Amax Gold. Inc.
Duferrena - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Golconda - Fred Barnes
Kings River Valley - Leah Rookstool
Leonard Creek Ranch - Frenchy Montero
McDermitt - John and Rose Albiso
Orovada - Vacant
Paradise Valley - Norma Schwartz
Sulfur - Bill Carno. Hycroft Resources & Development, Inc.
Winnemucca - Gary Rinaudo

LANDER

Antelope Valley - Clyde Farr Austin - Edna Cooley Battle Mountain - Sue Deming Kingston Canyon - Toppie Watson

Departure of Mean Temperature From Normal February 1994



